



Hongkong Daily Press

ESTABLISHED 1857

Registered as a Newspaper at the General Post Office in the United Kingdom

SUFFERING EYES.
with the progress of modern scientific ophthalmic discoveries should be at a minimum. But SUFFERING EYES will continue just the same if people will not avail themselves of these precious discoveries. We can fit you with glasses that will improve your sight and relieve you from pain.

N. LAZARUS,
Optician,
19, Queen's Road C. H.

No. 20,124 號四廿百一第第二第 日四初月一十年戌庚 HONGKONG, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21st, 1922. 四拜禮 號一廿月二十年一十國民華中 PRICE, \$8 PER MONTH

INTIMATION

SERVEN LUCAS BOLS.

VERY OLD SUPERIOR GENEVA (In Stone Cruchons)
DRY GIN (London Style)
BLACKBERRY BRANDY
CREME DE CACAO
CREME DE MENTHE
CURACAO GRAND FINE
CURACAO ORANGE (In Stone Cruchons)
KUMMEL AND MARASCHINO

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The Far Eastern representative Messrs. W. W. GREENER, LTD., 25, Pall Mall, London, is at present in Hongkong and all sportsmen are cordially invited to inspect a few sample models "Greener" Guns now being shown at our store.

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FRENCH LESSONS.

G. MOUSSION
15, Morrison Hill Road.

PEAK TRAMWAY CO., LIMITED.

TIME-TABLE.

WEEK DAYS.

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| 7.00 a.m. | 7.10 a.m. |
| 7.30 a.m. to 8.00 a.m. every 15 minutes | |
| 8.00 " | 10.00 " |
| 10.00 " | 11.00 " |
| 11.30 " | 12.30 p.m. |
| 12.30 p.m. | 2.00 " |
| 2.00 " | 4.00 " |
| 4.00 " | 8.10 " |

NIGHT CARS.
8.30 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. every 15 minutes
8.30 p.m. to 11.00 p.m. every 30 minutes
11.15 p.m. to 11.45 p.m. every 15 minutes.

SATURDAY.
Extra Car—19 midnight.

SUNDAYS.

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| 7.00 a.m. | 7.10 a.m. |
| 7.30 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. every 15 minutes | |
| 9.30 " | 11.00 " |
| 11.15 " | 12.00 noon " |
| 12.00 noon " | 1.00 p.m. " |
| 1.00 p.m. " | 4.00 " |
| 4.00 " | 8.10 " |

NIGHT CARS.
8.30 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. every 15 minutes
8.30 p.m. to 11.30 p.m. every 30 minutes
11.45 p.m.

SPECIAL CARS by arrangement at the Company's Office, Alexandra Buildings, Des Vaux Road.

Season and punch tickets available for all cars, not already full, running at the time stated in the Company's time-table, but not for special cars, can be obtained on application at the Company's Office. No Season tickets will be issued until payment therefor has been made in Bank Notes or Cheques or Comproadors Order represented Bank Notes.

KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY.

TIME-TABLE.
On and after FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15th, 1922, until further Notice.
(All previous Time Tables cancelled.)

| DOWE TRAINS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| | | Local | Local | Local | Local | Total | Through Express | Express | Local | Local | Through Express | Local | Local | Local | Total | Express |
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XMAS 1922

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[1563]

BANKING IN CHINA.

An interesting outline of the history of banking in China was given recently at Shanghai by Mr. Sung Han-chang, General Manager of the Bank of China. The address was given at one of the affairs held in honour of Mr. Alfred Sze, Chinese Minister to Washington.

The address follows:—
"Banking in China is traceable to those good old days when economic wars were altogether unknown on this planet of ours. Our first bankers were possibly the Shans merchants who were far-sighted enough in playing the part of pioneers in conducting the financial transactions of our domestic exchange. They were the authors of the Piao Ho system, and it was they who were responsible for the making of the sycee in the shape of a horseshoe. Hence the term 'sycee in shoes'."

Next to Piao Ho came the native banks. They formed guilds of their own and as their methods of doing business were much more popular than those of the Piao Ho the latter was gradually eliminated from the banking field in China. To-day the guilds of native banks are still exercising a strong influence on the financial market of China. During the latter years of the Tsing Dynasty banks conducted on modern lines came into being. The number of such banks has much increased since the Republican Revolution of 1911. These modern banks, have, I am glad to say, a record of achievement of which China may well be proud.

The modernised banks are indeed of international significance because they have correspondents in the various large cities of the world, and in some of the leading cities abroad they are represented by branches of their own.

Gentlemen, you will no doubt agree with me when I say that China is undergoing a period of financial reorganisation which at the same time brings with it a number of financial problems, that must be faced and solved.

The most important of these problems is, I maintain, the unification of Chinese currency. Here in Shanghai we must do our own part in this big scheme. Let us continue to advocate the abolition of sycee. At present practically in every part of the interior the Republican dollar has been the main currency. Formerly during the period known as the cotton season the proportion between Mexican dollars and Dragon dollars that were placed in circulation in a city like Wush and, for this matter, in other cities, was 8 to 2. Now there is hardly a single Mexican dollar in every hundred.

The next point I wish to mention is the imaginary Hukwan Tael which has been adopted by the Maritime Customs for the purpose of the collection of duty. There is no reason why Government income should not be collected in dollars, in view of the fact that other government revenues are collected in dollars.

In giving quotations of foreign currencies, the local banks have been accustomed to make such quotations on the basis of Taels. It will be an all-round gain if these quotations are entirely furnished on the dollar basis.

Is there any room for doubt that China is in great demand of silver dollars? Certainly not when we have before us the indisputable fact that the importation of silver bars has steadily increased in recent times. Every one of these bars, Gentlemen, has gone into the furnace of some Government mint where it is coined into dollars. I am of the opinion that the abolition of the sycee will become a movement worthy of wide and enthusiastic support because there exists already a consensus of opinion that the sycee has long ago outlived its usefulness."

CHINESE CAUSE CELEBRE AT SHANGHAI.

Dr. F. C. Tong, formerly managing director of the *Shanghai Journal of Commerce*, was last week sentenced to three years' imprisonment by the Shanghai District Court. Some time ago a girl committed suicide on the premises of the *Journal of Commerce*, and allegations were made that her suicide was in some manner connected with operations on a stock exchange in which Dr. Tong had interested himself. Incidentally on the publication of statements in connection therewith Dr. Tong took proceedings against two newspapers for damages for libel. About midnight on November 11th, while on his way home from office, Dr. Tong was arrested on a charge connected with the suicide by the Chinese City authorities. Sentence as stated above has now been pronounced, and Dr. Tong has given notice of appeal on the ground that the case has not received a fair hearing.

THE SILVER MARKET.

Messrs. Montagu's silver report dated December 1st says that the depression now resting on the silver market has carried prices lower than any have touched since spring time last year when the prices dipped to below thirty-one pence. The fall then was transitory and quick. A recovery ensued, but the factors at present at work do not appear to favour a similar reaction. The fact that a change from a market of practically all sellers on Tuesday to one of buyers on Wednesday only raised the quotation for forward delivery one-sixteenth of a penny, indicates a lack of stamina which does not augur well for future strength. The sterling exchange with the United States brought out silver with some freedom. During the week India resold some previous purchases, being able to secure supplies cheaply from China and Australia. China and the Continent also sold. The main support still comes from bear covering, Indian or otherwise.

TRAGIC AFFAIR AT KALGAN AMERICAN MERCHANT SHOT BY SENTRY.

Mr. Charles Coleman, an American, who was shot by a Chinese sentry while driving out in a motor-car from the gate of Kalgan in the company of the American Consul, and Mr. Coleman on December 11th died at Peking on the 15th inst.

Reuter's correspondent at Peking gives the following account of the circumstances of the tragedy:—Mr. Coleman and Mr. Wooden, of Messrs. S. L. Wooden & Co. of Kalgan, intended proceeding to Urga with \$10,000 for the purchase of goods. Mr. Sokobin, the American Consul, travelled in Mr. Coleman's car with the object of expediting their egress from the city. Mr. Wooden occupied a car in the rear. Arriving at the inner gate, Mr. Coleman presented a pass for the two cars, then going on to the outer gate, accompanied by the guard, according to the ordinary procedure.

On arrival at the outer gate, the officer commanding the guard demanded a search of the cars. Mr. Sokobin asked why, and the officer replied that export of certain commodities was forbidden. Asked to enumerate these, the officer mentioned several, including specie. Mr. Sokobin stated that the car contained Tls. 10,000, the export of which was not prohibited. The officer stated that a mandate had been issued prohibiting the export of upwards of a hundred dollars. Mr. Sokobin then visited the Foreign Commissioner, pointing out that foreigners were entitled to take out money for the furtherance of business, as had frequently been done in the past. Mr. Sokobin intimated that the cars would certainly proceed with the money and requested the Commissioner immediately to notify the guard not to interfere with their departure. Mr. Sokobin then returned and re-entered Mr. Coleman's car which started off.

Just as it moved off, four soldiers fired, wounding Mr. Coleman and narrowly missing Mr. Sokobin. Each soldier fired more than one shot. Mr. Coleman was then taken home, afterwards journeying to Peking by special train. The bullet had entered and passed out of his shoulders, injuring the spinal vertebra.

THE EARTHQUAKE AT UNZEN.

THE PANIC AT NAGASAKI.

With reference to the earthquakes in Japan the *Nagasaki Press* of December 10th says:—The inhabitants of Nagasaki appear to have escaped loss of life or serious injury, although the margin of safety was very narrow, judging by the damage sustained by some of the buildings in the old foreign settlement. The last really violent shock was that experienced at 2.30 on Friday afternoon, but minor shocks occurred at intervals up to one o'clock yesterday afternoon. Friday night was dreaded by large numbers of people and many spent it on school grounds and other open spaces. The Chinese residents, on a great number of them, took to sampans and lighters and spent the night in the harbour. The captain of the British str. *Glenferrie* very kindly placed the passenger accommodation of his vessel at the disposal of the foreign community and 14 residents took advantage of the offer.

FOREIGNER MURDERED IN YOKOHAMA.

A CALLOUS CRIME.

Mr. William Pepper, aged 55, employed by the Canadian Pacific Steamship Company in Yokohama, was stabbed and killed on the 14th by a Japanese. Mr. Pepper was on the way to his office along the Bluff Road when he was attacked, his assailant stabbing him in the neck with a knife, severing the carotid artery. After seeing his victim die the assassin proceeded to the police station where he gave himself up and confessed. The police refused to give out the murderer's confession of the reasons for the crime but it is believed that it was because Mr. Pepper discharged him. Mr. Pepper was British and an old resident in Japan. He was captain of a C.P.S. tug. His wife is Japanese.

ARREST OF AN AMERICAN LADY JOURNALIST.

ORDERS FROM MOSCOW.

A message from Chita says:—Mrs. Margaret Harrison, an American journalist, arrived here recently. She had previously been in prison in Moscow and had written a book entitled "Marooned in Moscow." She came from Peking—where the Soviet representative had given her a visa—Kalgan and Urga, reaching Chita about November 18th. After a few days here she was arrested by the Gos-Politokhran, the State Political Defence Department (actually the Counter-Espionage Department, which functions much as the Okla in Moscow). Orders for her arrest had come straight from Moscow and M. Kobzarev, chief of the Revolutionary Committee, which functions here under Moscow, was unaware of the event and pointed out that he had no authority over the actions of the Gos-Politokhran. Mrs. Harrison was a few days later sent to Moscow and is at present detained there.—Reuter.

Professor Tuffier, in a report to the French Academy of Medicine on the ravages of cancer, states that this fell disease is killing 100,000 people a year. From 1908 to 1910 England had the highest death-rate from cancer, which averaged 14 per 100,000 persons.

SPORT.

CRICKET.

C.S.C.C. 2ND XI. v. KOWLOON.

The following will represent the C.S.C.C. 2nd XI. at Kowloon next Saturday:—Hill, Sara, Savage, Tucki, Gardiner, Haynes, Sanford, Cullip, Cowan, Owick and Watson. Reserve: C. Fincher.

R.G.A. v. INDIAN R.C.

In this league match on Saturday at 2.15 p.m. at Happy Valley, the following will represent the Indians:—A. Arculli (capt.), A. H. Ramjahn, J. S. Curreen, A. H. Madar, E. A. Moosdeen, N. B. Kitchell, S. H. Ismail, S. A. Ismail, S. A. R. Ismail, and S. A. Ramjahn.

INDIAN R.C. v. ROYAL ENGINEERS.
In this junior league match on Saturday at 2.15 p.m. at Sookranpoo Valley, the following will represent the Indians:—N. B. Kitchell, E. Moosdeen (capt.), R. Nazarin, D. Ramjahn, O. Ramjahn, H. D. Ramjahn, F. M. Arculli, A. K. Minnu, Y. A. Wahub, I. Hassan, A. Kitchell and J. Ackber.

FOOTBALL.

SUSPENSIONS.

The Emergency Committee of the Hongkong Football Association have decided that, in the case of misconduct during the match *Ambrose v. Titania*, on Nov. 29th, Walsh, of H.M.S. *Ambrose*, be suspended for one month from Nov. 29th, and Batterham, of H.M.S. *Titania*, be suspended sine die.

A QUESTION OF COPYRIGHT.

Chinese Booksellers in Court.
A Chinese firm of booksellers was summoned before Mr. J. R. Wood at the Magistracy, yesterday, for selling books registered in Hongkong, and therefore copyright.

Mr. Russ, who appeared to prosecute, informed his Worship that as the result of a meeting held in his office since the issuing of the summons between the parties concerned an agreement had been reached regarding the sale of locally registered books. The agreement had not yet been signed but he thought that it would be. He asked for the case to be put back pending the confirmation of the agreement.

The case was adjourned for one week.

ANOTHER BIG FIRE AT CANTON.

There was another disastrous fire at Canton on the night of the 18th inst. in the Wongmiao district, near the Canton-Hankow Railway Station. The fire originated in a house in which the customary paper offerings to the dead were being burnt, and the flame ignited other inflammable articles. The fire spread with great rapidity and, very soon the neighbouring houses were involved. Fire engines came upon the scene from various directions, but they were of very little use owing to the very low pressure at the hydrants and also to the fact that a northerly wind was blowing with some strength. Over forty houses were destroyed before the fire was got under control. The extent of the damage is not yet known, but it must be very considerable. A big rice firm will suffer heavy loss for the stock of unpolished rice alone is stated to have cost more than \$100,000. Another shop sustained the loss of 80 pigs which were burnt to death.

PACIFIC ISLAND DISAPPEARS.

It is reported from America that Easter Island has disappeared as a result of the recent earthquake. An attempt has been made to get in touch with the island by wireless, but no reply has been received to messages. Easter Island, a lonely Pacific islet, in 27 deg. 8 min. S. latitude and 109 deg. 14 min. W. longitude, was discovered by Roggeveen on Easter Day, 1722, and visited in 1773 by Capt. Cook. It was 47 square miles in area and was entirely volcanic, with many extinct craters rising more than 1,000 feet. The island was fertile but badly off for water. Sheep and cattle grazing was started by a French firm in Tahiti, after the departure in 1875 of missionaries with 300 natives (fair Polynesians) for the Gambian Archipelago 500 having been shipped to Tahiti four years earlier and most of the adults kidnapped by the Peruvians in 1823 to work the guano deposits. Thus the population had dwindled from 3,000 to 150. Besides the 656 rude stone statues for which Easter Island was famous there were nearly a hundred stone houses with walls five feet thick, and interiors bearing paintings of birds and animals. In September, 1889, Chili annexed Easter Island for a convict settlement.

"THE WHISKY AND HAGGIS BUSINESS."

A proposal is being made to transfer the headquarters of the Burns' cult from Kilmarnock, where the Burns' federation meets, to Glasgow. Mr. J. Jeffrey Hunter, a prominent Burns' speaker in Glasgow, said that Glasgow had inspired nine-tenths of the successful Burns' movements of the last twenty years, and had found about the same proportion of the necessary funds. As regards the Burns' Federation, although 300 clubs appeared on the roll, one-third of these were actually defunct, and about another third were practically content to confine their efforts to the haggis and whisky business on the poet's anniversary.

INTIMATIONS

"STARVATION YIELDS."

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Put YOUR MONEY here,

See YOUR MONEY grow,

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3 months ... @ 4 1/2 "
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CHIU CHU KEE, Manager.

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L. S. HOLLUM.

Hongkong, October 2d 1920.

Shining eyes
and glossy curls.

—of your little boy or girl,

that will not forever stay

capture in pictures TO-DAY

We have the so-

A of an outfit you

TACK

& Co.

want. Let us

show it to you.

26, Des Vaux Road, Central.

DAIRY FARM NEWS.

FRESH STOCK OF

FILLETS HADDOCKS.

AND

KIPPERS.

JUST RECEIVED

DIRECT FROM THE SCOTTISH

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AGENTS AND MERCHANTS.

We manufacture products that

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varying from 100 to 400 per

cent.

MODERN PORTRAITS, CONVEX

GLASSES, SERVING TRAYS,

WINDOW GLASS, MIRRORING,

MIRORS, FRAMES, FRAMES,

LUMINOUS DECORATIONS, OILPAINTS,

PAINTS, PAINTING, HAND CARVED FRAMES,

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TO LET—One Large Office Room in

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[27]

TO BE LET—GODOWN—Spacious Two

store Godown, situated on the Praya

near Bowrington Canal and containing approximately 5,000 square feet on each floor. To be let to the end of the year.—Apply to office of this paper.

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EXTRAORDINARY PARTNERSHIPS.

HOW LITTLE CREATURES HELP ONE ANOTHER.

INTERESTING NATURAL HISTORY LECTURE.

Limited partnerships and "Regulation of Partnerships" are familiar subjects in Hongkong—even "Fraudulent Partnerships" have been known to exist—but the "Extraordinary Partnerships" on which Mr. R. W. Barney, Lecturer in Biology at Hongkong University, discoursed two nights ago had nothing to do with these. They were partnerships for mutual benefit—not to be confounded in any way with parasitism (into which, however, they were sometimes in danger of degenerating).

Mr. Barney had such an extraordinary story to tell that one was almost inclined at times to be incredulous and to wonder if the lecturer spells his name with an "i". But a lecture delivered in what the chair golia who bore the writer thicker designated "The Kenney To Joss House," with the "meester" presiding—could this be an elaborate practical joke? Besides, Mr. E. R. Dovey, the Government Analyst (generally accounted a person not easily to be deceived) projected lantern slides on to the screen for Mr. Barney, without protest, so it must have been all right.

The following is a free rendering, from memory, of some of the stories that Mr. Barney told: The hermit-crab, whom Nature has left half-finished, with an armour-plated forepart and a soft hinder-end, makes up for the deficiency by backing into an empty shell, testing all it can lay claws upon until it finds one to fit. It used to be thought that the crab was of a misanthropical temperament and crawled into the shell like Diogenes into his tub; hence the name "hermit crab"; further investigation of the creature's habits, however, has shown that it simply seeks to overcome the disability under which Nature has unkindly left it and to protect its tender tail. The hermit-crab often takes into partnership a jelly-fish which fastens on to its shell. The jelly-fish has stinging glands which make it an unacceptable morsel to other creatures of the sea, so its presence is a further protection to the hermit-crab. The scraps that fall from its host's table are the jelly-fish's share of the day's rations.

Gradually, the jelly-fish absorbs into its system the silicates of the shell so that the remarkable situation comes about that the hermit-crab is actually living inside—or, rather, surrounded by—the jelly fish!

Mr. Barney was able to give a surprisingly large number of examples, drawn from natural history, of partnerships quite as extraordinary, and even of alliances between members of the animal and vegetable kingdoms. In these, one member of the partnership converts carbon dioxide into nitrogen for the animal partner which, in return, supplies the vegetable partner with starch or some other necessity.

There is a species of beetle which bores into timber for a distance of as much as a foot in order to lay its eggs; with its saliva and the resultant "saw-dust" (if one may use the word) it makes a paste partition between each of twelve eggs. In doing this, the beetle gets thoroughly dusted over with particles of wood. Instead of wasting time over its toilet, however, it has a working arrangement with a species of mites which go over its body and eat up all the particles. It appears, from close investigation, that these mites are not parasites (a lower order of creation), with which men in the Army became familiar during the war. The male beetle does no work in the way of tunneling in the wood. He therefore does not get dirty and has none of the sanitary coolies mites. If the mites were mere parasites, living on their host, it is only reasonable to assume that both the male and female beetle would be infested with them. Similarly, some creatures give house room in their nests to smaller creatures which clean up after them.

Then Mr. Barney went to the ant and considered her ways. (Incidentally discovering a new species of "ant" at Hongkong). As Mr. Macdonald remarked, Mr. Barney could only plead mitigation that he did not invent them! Ants keep pots and also creatures which they use to advantage. They may be seen stroking their "cows" until the latter exude a fluid which the ants eagerly consume.

These and many other interesting examples of a "little-known" aspect of nature kept an audience at Union Church Lecture Hall deeply interested and at the conclusion of the talk, the lecturer and the "Internist" (Mr. E. R. Dovey) was very heartily endorsed.

KOWLOON JUNIOR SCHOOL.

FIRST ANNUAL PRIZE-GIVING.

CONCERNING KINDERGARTEN.

The first annual prize-giving to the children of the Kowloon Junior School was held yesterday afternoon. The school was only opened last February as an overflow for the Kowloon British School. A large number of parents and friends were present and were first entertained to a charming concert by the children.

In the course of her report on the year's work, Miss Skinner, the headmistress, said the pupils numbered sixty, all quite young children, who were taught by a staff of four mistresses. The school, she said, was run as far as possible on kindergarten lines. Whilst on the subject she took the opportunity of pointing out that kindergarten was not "a subject" of education, but a "system" of education. She knew of nothing so little understood, and therefore so much abused. Most people thought it simply meant play with bricks and sticks. It might be play, and at its best it would be play, but play time was the most serious, and the most fruitful, period of a child's life. A child's play was earnest work to him, and skilled indeed was the teacher who could lead the child to knowledge—knowledge of himself and of the external world—through this natural activity.

Miss Skinner went on to say that the health of the school during the year had been very good indeed, and attendance had been quite satisfactory. They had not yet been able to get sport in full swing, though it was hoped to do so in the following term. At the present time there were only three or four Wolf Cubs in the school, but the matter was in the hands of Miss Irving, and a troop was to be formed in January.

The prizes were then presented by Mrs. R. M. Dyer, who on completing the task, congratulated Miss Skinner on the success with which she had managed the school. Referring to the Kindergarten system of education, she expressed the opinion that it was far superior to the old method, of which she said "I have not a single pleasant memory." She thought the results obtained were remarkably good, and said it was a very pleasant thing to see children happy and contented in their schools.

The Hon. Mr. E. Irving, Director of Education, expressed the opinion that Miss Skinner had brought the school very creditably through a difficult year. He then called for a vote of thanks to Mrs. Dyer.

The following is a list of the prize-winners:—Class VII, class prize, Nan MacArthur; French prize, Mary Rattey; habitual neatness prize, Edith Mead. Class VIII, class prize, Eileen Steel; habitual neatness, Arthur Chester; originality in work, Una Mitchell. Class A, class prize, Iris Woolley; habitual neatness, Elizabeth Blyth; handwriting, Morrison Rousseau. Division I, 1st prize, Robert Blyth; 2nd, John Salter. Division II, 1st prize, Dorothy Johnstone; 2nd, Elmer Hammond.

Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. M. E. F. Airey, Mr. and Mrs. B. Wylie, Mr. D. W. Salter, Dr. W. B. A. Moore, Mr. and Mrs. W. Forsyth, Mr. A. B. Silva-Netto, the Rev. and Mrs. G. B. Lindsay, Mr. and Mrs. D. M. Richards.

CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

[BEFORE MR. JUSTICE COMPTON.]

KIDNAPPING—CONSPIRACY.

The case in which a second Chinese was indicted on a charge of being a conspirator in the kidnapping of a youth named Tam Woon, the son of a local building contractor, was concluded yesterday.

The prisoner was Tam Man He, and it was alleged that he introduced the boy to another conspirator, who persuaded him to go up to Canton with them. Here they took him further along the railroad where he was kidnapped by armed men in league with the prisoner and his companions. They eventually secured the sum of \$2,700 from the boy's father for his release.

Mr. Campbell Prosser, for the defence, alleged that the youth had concocted the story out of revenge because on one occasion the accused would not lend him ten dollars. He further alleged that the youth himself was in the conspiracy, and allowed himself to be kidnapped in order to share in the ransom.

The Jury returned a verdict of guilty, and the prisoner was sentenced to three years' imprisonment.

BAKERS' STRIKE SETTLED.

TERMS OF SETTLEMENT.

A settlement of the questions involved in this matter was reached yesterday afternoon on the following terms:—

| For wages | An increase of |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| From \$3 to \$3.5 a month | 45% |
| " \$4 " " " | 35% |
| " \$5 " " " | 25% |
| " \$6 " " " | 20% |
| " \$7 " " " | 15% |

"The minimum wages for small boys shall be \$2 a month."

"These increases shall be based on the wages in force on the 2nd day of Chinese moon this year."

"For the rest, the old customs of the several shops shall continue."

The agreement was signed by Tam Wun In and Yeung Tsoi, "full power representatives of Bakers," and Masters of 13 Chinese-owned bakeries.

The men start work to-morrow morning.

OUR BLIND GIRLS.

HOW THEY EARN THEIR LIVING.

It would probably be safe to say that only a few people know that an Institution for blind girls exists in the Colony, but they can hardly be blamed, for situated as it is in the hinterland of Kowloon it comes under the notice of but very few Europeans. One day every year, however, the public are reminded of the institution by a sale of work. This year's sale was held yesterday at the Helena May Institute, kindly lent for the purpose. The result of a year's work by 49 blind girls was placed on view. It was all hand-work and for the most part took the form of knitting and embroidery. One marvelled at this display of work by blind girls, especially the beautifully designed woollen shawls and wraps which were equal to anything worked on modern machinery. There was also a good display of socks, jumpers, sweaters and other warm woollen articles. An innovation this year was the sale of brushes. During the year some of the girls have been taught the craft of brush making and there was a good display of hand brushes, strong and well finished; they found a ready market.

During the day many ladies visited the sale and there was a quick sale of all the articles offered. It is interesting to record that the proceeds of the sale of work represents the efforts of these unfortunate girls to earn their own livelihood. Their efforts, however, are by no means sufficient to maintain themselves, and the Church Missionary Society, under whose wing the Institution comes, would be thankful for any additional support. Miss Troon, the Matron of the Institution, would also be pleased to receive visitors and to show them over the Institution at Kowloon City.

OPIUM SMUGGLING.

HEAVY FINE FOR A CHINESE.

The case in which a Chinese from India was charged at the Magistracy, the other day, with unlawfully having in his possession 713 taels of raw opium, was concluded yesterday.

At the previous hearing, Mr. C. A. Russ informed Mr. Wood that his client pleaded guilty. He, however, asked for a remand, in order to address his Worship on the case.

Yesterday afternoon when the case was called, Mr. Russ pleaded for leniency. The defendant, he said, was a shoe-maker from Calcutta, and on leaving there for China he was asked to take the luggage in which opium was found, with him. He did not know what the luggage contained.

In reply to the Magistrate, Mr. Russ said the luggage was intended for Ka Ying Chan.

Continuing, he added that his client was undoubtedly liable, but, as anybody could see by the man's features, he was but slightly educated and apparently the tool of another party.

Chief Preventive Officer, Clark said there was nothing on the luggage to indicate where it was to be consigned.

The Magistrate said he was in two minds whether to send the prisoner to goal or not. He thought it was very likely that the prisoner was just passing through the Colony and that the opium was intended for another port. Under these circumstances he imposed a fine of \$7,500 with the alternative of 12 months' imprisonment with hard labour.

Dr. Fuchs of Vienna who is regarded as the greatest authority on diseases of the eye, and who has just delivered a course of lectures at Peking Union Medical College, is visiting Canton.

CORRESPONDENCE.

S.P.C.A.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "THE HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

Sir,—It has been brought to the notice of this Society that it is a common practice amongst Chinese servants to kill turkeys by cutting out their tongues and letting them bleed gradually to death. It is hoped that all Members of the Foreign population will keep a watch over their servants during the approaching festive season, with a view to preventing such cruelty, and will also see that their servants are supplied with baskets for the conveyance of poultry from the markets to their homes.

Thanking you in anticipation for inserting this in your paper.—Yours faithfully,

B. L. FROST
(Hon. Secretary, S.P.C.A.)
Hongkong, December 19th, 1923.

SMUGGLED CIGARETTES.

A FORGERY THAT WAS NOT AN OFFENCE.

A Chinese, who was arrested on the Yau-mat-Mongkok Road in possession of 9,500 dutiable "100 Sparrows" cigarettes, was yesterday fined \$500 with the alternative of four months' imprisonment. The duty on the cigarettes was \$42.75.

An interesting feature of the case was a statement made by Mr. Taylor of the Revenue Department to the effect that the Department had a special arrangement with the manufacturers whereby certain marks were placed on the packages to show that duty had been paid. In this case the packages of cigarettes bore the mark, but the marks were forgeries. As, however, the arrangement was not covered in the Ordinance the man could not be charged with the offence. The cigarettes were confiscated.

MORE ARMED ROBBERIES.

ROBBED GANG LED BY A WOMAN.

There is a woman robber in the Colony who apparently controls a large gang of robbers. She appears to be about 20 years of age. She first made her appearance on Sunday last when she conducted an armed robbery at Lower Lascar Row which resulted in \$2,000 being stolen. Her next sensational appearance was on Tuesday night, when she led a gang of seven armed men into the house of a Portuguese lady, named Mrs. Marques, living at No. 93, Wanchai Road.

Mrs. Marques has informed the Police that about 10.15 p.m. she was sitting in the bedroom with her children when the men, led by the woman, rushed into the house through the back door. They seized the two maids in the kitchen and quickly bound and gagged them. The woman placed one of the gang on guard over them and arranged guards at both the back and the front doors. The remainder of the gang followed the woman into the bedroom. Mrs. Marques was held up by the men while the woman conducted a search of the room for valuables. Jewellery to the value of \$711 was stolen.

ROBBERY AT STANLEY.

On Tuesday afternoon an armed robbery took place at Stanley village. Three men knocked at the door of a house occupied by a Chinese widow. One of the men stated that he had brought wine and a letter from the widow's son. She opened the door, and was immediately pounced upon by one of the robbers who rubbed some liquid over her face, whilst another robber engaged himself in binding and gagging her, using a shawl that she was wearing for the purpose. The robbers broke open a tin box and stole money and jewellery to the value of \$883.

ROBBED IN A WOMAN'S COAT.

Three armed robbers on Tuesday afternoon surprised the inmates of a house at No. 85, Yu Chow Street, Shun Shui Po. The inmates of the house, a woman, a man and three children, were covered by revolvers and bound and gagged. Jewellery and money to the value of \$150 was stolen.

One of the robbers was dressed in a woman's velvet faced overcoat and a woollen hood was drawn over her head. The hood and the coat were left in the house by the robbers and have been handed over to the Police.

Final figures of the census of the Union of South Africa show a population of 6,923,780, made up as follows:—Europeans, 2,519,731, natives, 4,977,813; Asiatics, 105,731, and coloured 545,548.

PRESENTS.

MESSRS.

MAPPIN & WEBB

HAVE SENT US A NICE

SELECTION OF INLAIN TORTOISE SHELL.

TRINKET BOXES.

PUFF BOXES.

HAIR TIDIES.

PIN TRAYS.

BRUSH SETS.

&c. &c.

EXQUISITE CHRISTMAS GIFTS.

WE HAVE ALSO RECEIVED A CONSIGNMENT OF THE FAMOUS

"ROLEX" WRIST WATCHES

THE WATCH WITH THE GUARANTEE.

LANE, CRAWFORD, LTD.

CAFÉ WISEMAN'S

CHRISTMAS SPECIALITIES.

DUNDEE CAKES

Made from the original Dundee recipe. From \$2.00 each. We are also supplying this cake with a layer of almond paste, covered with fondant icing and decorated. From \$3.00 each. We are making a special feature of this line and can strongly recommend it.

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RECORDS FOR CHRISTMAS

| | |
|---|--|
| 7193 (GOOD KING WENCESLAS GOD REST YE MERRY GENTLE MEN) | 7190 (CHRISTIANS AWAKE! HARK THE HERALD ANGELS SING) |
| 7192 (THE FIRST NOEL WHILE SHEPHERD'S WATCHED JOICE O. COME ALL YE FAITHFUL) | 1736 (CHRISTMAS MEMORIES Parts 1 & 2) |
| | 1737 (CHRISTMAS HYMNS Part 1 & 2) |

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Have a Very Choice Selection of

| | | |
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| Socks | Handkerchiefs (in Silk and Cotton) | Sweaters |
| Gloves | Scarves (in Silk and Wool) | Waistcoats |
| Shirts | Studs and Links | Attache Cases |
| Bags | Dressing Gowns | Hair Brushes |

They are the Most Suitable and Acceptable

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

FOR GENTLEMEN

THAT YOU CAN MAKE

Being of Reliable Quality they will give Complete Satisfaction.

NECKWEAR

is a Specialty with us and we have for This Season a Splendid Assortment.

For the convenience of our Customers we are remaining open until 6 p.m. during this week.

CABLES.

LATEST CABLES.
[THROUGH LUTHER'S AGENCY.]LAUSANNE DISCUSSIONS.
GREEKS AND BULGARIANS
SUPPORT ALLIES.

LAUSANNE, December 19th.
The Greek and Bulgarian Delegates also strongly supported the Allied proposals.

TURKEY MAY SEVER
NEGOTIATIONS.

PARIS, December 19th.
A member of the Turkish Delegation informed the Hava's Agency representative at Lausanne that the Ankara Government has instructed the Turkish Delegation to break off negotiations if, before four o'clock to-morrow afternoon, satisfaction is not given on the chief proposals as regards the Straits.

The delegate added that the question of the Straits is one of two points on which the Turkish view must prevail. The other point was not mentioned.

NO FURTHER TURKISH CON-
CESSIONS.

LAUSANNE, December 19th.
The Turks to-day declared that they can make no more concessions, and, if the Allies maintain their attitude, no agreement is possible. The Turks still hope that the Allies will make concessions at the last moment.

EARLIER CABLES.

RUSSIA'S OBSTRUCTIONIST
TACTICS.

LAUSANNE, December 19th.
The Russian and Turkish so-called counter projects with regard to the Straits are not taken seriously. Well-informed quarters are of opinion that M. Chicherin, seeing his proposal to close the Black Sea unopposed anywhere, is determined to prevent any other scheme succeeding, hence demanding a sub-commission with a view to pursuing obstructionist tactics; but the Allies are determined to refuse.

It is pointed out that the Russian proposal is merely a revival of the original Russian scheme, with a few additional inducements to Turkey to join. It is hoped the Turks will recognise this and return to their original attitude of co-operation with the Allies for the conclusion of peace. The modifications Turkey proposes have already been disposed of at a meeting of military and naval experts, some time ago, and no new concession is possible.

A LIVELY PASSAGE AT ARMS.

LAUSANNE, December 19th.
"The League of Nations is organized impotently," said M. Chicherin at the conclusion of a lively passage at arms with Lord Curzon yesterday evening. Chicherin had said the Allied scheme, while offering fallacious protection to Turkey, allowed a free passage in war time, thus exposing the south coast of Russia to attack and obliging Russia to arm.
Lord Curzon said he was disappointed at Chicherin's spirit, and pointed out that Ismet Pasha did not regard the guarantee as illusory, and only Chicherin discussed aggressive intentions towards Turkey. Lord Curzon emphasized that the Allies desire was to render full justice to Russia, and said if Chicherin persisted in his view progress would be impossible.

TURKISH CONCESSION.

CONSTANTINOPLE, December 19th.
The Ankara Government has decided to extend indefinitely the period in which Christians must leave Anatolia, which was originally fixed at a month.

MALIGNANT TURKISH MIS-
REPRESENTATION.

CONSTANTINOPLE, December 19th.
General Haxington has authorized a categorical denial of the allegation made by Bout Bey with regard to the raping of Turkish women by Armenian labourers at Gallipoli under British instigation, which is declared absolutely without foundation.

LIMIT OF ALLIED CONCESSIONS
REACHED.

LAUSANNE, December 19th.
Replying to a Turkish proposal to maintain a garrison of five thousand men at Gallipoli, Lord Curzon said the Turks must be content with the concessions already made them. The Allies had gone to the furthest limit of concessions. It was impossible to accept the Russian plan with regard to the Straits, which was diametrically opposed to the Allies' plan. The position is that the Allies have completely agreed with regard to the proposed regime of the Straits and absolutely decline to entertain any counter-proposal.

The Rumanian and Yugo-Slav delegates spoke strongly in favour of the Allied plan, while Chicherin urged that his plan was more suitable.
The Straits Commission adjourned at two in the afternoon without any rupture, but Lord Curzon made it quite clear that the discussion of the Straits to-morrow must be the last on the subject.

LATEST CABLES.

A BELGIAN DUEL.

DELEGATE TO L.O.N. CHALLENGED.

BRUSSELS, December 19th.
As the result of an incident in the Chamber of Representatives, M. Frank, Minister for the Colonies, sent seconds to M. Paul Hymans, Principal Belgian Delegate to the League of Nations Council.

U.S. PROHIBITION
FURTHER LEGAL ACTION.

WASHINGTON, December 19th.
Counsel for the foreign steamship lines has filed a brief in the Supreme Court, attacking Judge Hand's decision as regards liquor on foreign vessels.
He argues that while prohibition legislation may be applied to the United States and territories subject thereto, it cannot be extended to the regulation of internal affairs in foreign ships entering American waters.

[A cable message from New York, dated October 23rd, stated that Judge Hand, of the United States Federal Court, had dismissed a motion by the foreign shipping companies for a permanent order under the Daugherty ruling. Suits by American steamship companies were similarly dealt with.]

NAVAL REDUCTIONS.

JAPAN AND AMERICA STAY THEIR
HANDS.

WASHINGTON, December 19th.
Mr. Denby, Secretary of the Navy, has transmitted to Congress a report showing that neither the United States nor Japan plans to complete the scrapping of existing capital ships, at least pending the promulgation of the Armaments Treaty, although both have ceased work on capital ship building. "On the contrary," Great Britain is shown to have disposed, or is disposing of a very considerable number of her older capital vessels.

FRENCH NAVAL ESTIMATES
ADOPTED.

LONDON, December 19th.
The Chamber of Deputies has adopted the naval estimates.

SOVIET SEIZURES OF U.S.
BANK'S DEPOSITS.AN IMPORTANT RULING REGARD-
ING LIABILITY.

NEW YORK, December 19th.
The Supreme Court has upheld the contention that the National City Bank is not responsible for the funds of depositors in its Petrograd branch, as the Soviet seized the assets. The liability, therefore, rests with the Soviet.

This decision, if upheld, will have an important bearing on similar claims against New York banks aggregating \$100,000,000.

CENTRAL AMERICAN
CONFERENCE.CONSIDERATION OF UNION POST-
PONED.

WASHINGTON, December 19th.
The Central American Conference has decided to postpone consideration of the question of a union of Central American Republics until 1926, when another conference will be called to establish a basis of union.

OBITUARY.

MAHARAJAH OF COOCH BEHAR.

LONDON, December 19th.
The Maharajah Bhup Bahadur of Cooch Behar died in London this morning at a nursing-home.

EARLIER CABLES.

PRINCE GEORGE ILL.

OPERATED ON FOR APPENDICITIS.

LONDON, December 19th.
Prince George was operated on for appendicitis at the King Edward Seventh Hospital for Officers this morning.

LATER.

An official bulletin states that Prince George stood the operation for the removal of the appendix well.
[Prince George is the fifth child of Their Majesties the King and Queen. He was 20 years of age yesterday having been born at York Cottage on December 20th, 1902. He is a midshipman in the Navy.]

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC
POSITION.U.S. INTERVENTION UNDER
CONSIDERATION.

NEW YORK, December 19th.

Mr. J. P. Morgan declared in his statement regarding a loan to Germany that while he greatly desired to devote himself to the situation, his position was unchanged since the bankers' conference in June. The statement has strengthened the impression that the President intends to endeavour diplomatically to secure a reduction of reparations, or fix the limits of Germany's capacity to pay, before concerting on loan measures.

Washington messages represent Mr. Harding as being pleased with the newspapers' warm reception of the preliminary stages of what Mr. Hughes described as the beginning of long, delicate negotiations. The next stage is expected to follow Ambassador Harvey's arrival, while the administration will have a further opportunity of personal contact with a European expert in the person of Mr. Baldwin, who sails for New York on December 27th to negotiate the funding of the British debt to America.

A BELATED CLAIM.

EXTENSION OF TIME REFUSED.

LAUSANNE, December 19th.
In the Admiralty division, Mr. Justice Hill refused to extend beyond the two years allowed by the Maritime Conventions Act of 1911 the time for bringing an action against the Peninsula and Oriental S.N. Company by the mother of one of the four hundred American soldiers drowned in the collision between the steamer Otranto and P. & O. Kashmir in October, 1918, for damages for the loss of her son. The Judge declared that the plaintiff's ignorance of her legal rights was not sufficient reason for his exercising his discretion in the matter.

RIOTS IN ITALY.

FASCISTS AND COMMUNISTS
CLASH.

ROME, December 19th.
Owing to an attack on Fascists at Turin on the evening of December 7th, in which two were killed and one wounded, the Fascist headquarters here decided to mobilize the Fascists at Turin, who occupied the Labour headquarters and hoisted the Italian flag at half-mast.
Subsequently the building was burned down, also the offices of a Communist newspaper and some Communist clubs. Five Communists were killed and 15 wounded in fighting which took place yesterday. The city is now quiet, owing to the Government's vigorous measures.

AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL
ELECTION PROBLEM.PRIME MINISTER'S
UNPOPULARITY.

MELBOURNE, December 19th.
The elections have reached an interesting stage. The Nationalist and Labour parties each now number 23. It is reported from Sydney that the Nationalists and Country Party are negotiating with regard to co-operation, and the Countryites are stipulating that the Nationalists drop Mr. Hughes.

M.C.C. V. TRANSVAAL.

A DRAWN MATCH.

JOHANNESBURG, December 19th.
The match between the M.C.C. and the Transvaal was drawn.

The M.C.C. compiled 119 without the loss of a wicket, Russell and Sandham contributing 77 and 41 respectively, both being not out. Rain fell during lunch and there was no further play.

AMERICAN FIRMS FAILURE.

LIABILITIES OVER \$5,000,000.

LONDON, December 19th.
The correspondent of *The Times* at New York says the failure is announced of the Houston Fibre Company, one of the largest commission houses in the West, dealing with securities in grain, etc. The known liabilities are \$5,500,000 (gold).

THE RAND REBELS.

THREE MORE DEATH SENTENCES.

JOHANNESBURG, December 19th.
The remaining three persons tried on charges arising from the attack at the Bakpan mine during the Rand revolt have been sentenced to death. The Court, however, expressed a strong hope that the Governor-General would reprieve them.

DUBLIN EXECUTIONS.

SEVEN MORE ANNOUNCED.

LONDON, December 19th.
It is officially announced that seven men were executed at Mountjoy Prison, Dublin, this morning. They were found in possession of arms when captured in a Nationalist's house near the Curragh, last week.

DUTCH STATE LOAN.

APPROVED BY SECOND CHAMBER.

THE HAGUE, December 19th.
The Bill authorising a State loan of three hundred and fifty million florins for the consolidation of the floating debt, has been passed by the Second Chamber.

SCOTTISH LETTER.

THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN.

ITS FIRST PHASE.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

EDINBURGH, November 28th.

With the completion of the general nominations, the first phase of the election is completed. So far as Scotland is concerned, whatever the succeeding days may bring forth—and they are not likely to alter first impressions—the opening speeches have disclosed no divergence in any major point in policy between the two wings of the late Coalition or between Unionists and Liberals, whether National or Independent. An exception may perhaps be made in regard to Free Trade, but that is not at present an issue, nor can it be an issue so long as the economic condition of Europe remains in a chaotic state.

In nine-tenths of Scottish constituencies the concord between the Conservatives and the National Liberals is strictly observed. Indeed the attitude all through the crisis which convulsed a large part of England was one of neutrality. The local organisers were practically unanimous in the opinion that a continued agreement between the parties to the old Coalition was absolutely essential. They objected to any interference in what they looked upon as an English squabble, and treated it as a matter with which they had no concern.
So far as Scotland is concerned there is no official "deal" between Independent Liberals and Labour about seats, and if any bargain has been made in individual constituencies it is very unobtrusive. Each put forward its candidates irrespective of the other, and where the parties do not oppose each other the reason is political rather than tactical. England furnishes one or two cases where the two parties seem, at least, to have shown a certain amount of mutual consideration—to put it no higher. Of a general policy of getting out of each other's way there are no signs here in the North, and had such an agreement been reached it could not have been concealed.

Conservatives, National Liberals and Independent Liberals are almost united against the nationalisation policy. The qualification of "almost" is necessary, because one or two Independent Liberals have broken away from the policy of their leader, Mr. Asquith, and have on this issue temporarily allied themselves with Labour. That may be considered by them to be good local electioneering tactics where the Labour vote is strong and no Labour candidate is seeking election, but as the Independent Liberal policy, as laid down at its conferences, condemns nationalisation, these candidates are in danger of forfeiting their right to the title "Liberal" large and accommodating though that umbrella may be. Moreover, the local Independent Liberals are protesting, and the candidates, in coquetting with Labour, are thus estranging their own friends. Dr. Chapple, the Independent Liberal candidate for Dumfriesshire, has landed himself in this plight, and is trying to stand with a foot in the Labour camp.

The "doubtful" voters are more numerous than in any previous election; the political prophets are very busy of committing themselves. A leading organ, when asked about the miners' vote, would only go so far as to say that that was "a matter of interesting study." What puzzled him was how many miners, who are still suffering from the effects of their disastrous strike, would abandon the Labour party. Then there is the problem of the Roman Catholic vote. While the Irish question was unsettled, the Irish vote could be depended upon; but now that it is out of the way, it will not go wholly to Labour. Indeed many of the better class Irish Catholics object in the strongest manner to all nationalising proposals. Canvassers state that they find many Scottish voters quite at sea in regard to the present political issues, and will only say that they intend to vote for the best man—the most honest man. The election is like a haggis, they do not know what is in it. But the women are the most doubtful section of our election agents decline to commit themselves in any way as to the way in which they will act in the polling booth.

The campaign is being carried on with a remarkable lack of excitement. In many districts it might almost be said that it excites little interest. And the candidates are fighting each other with buttons on the folk. So far very few of the opponents have shown bitterness to each other, and said nothing that would prevent them exchanging invitations to afternoon teas. In the larger centres, of course, there is a certain liveliness, and the hecklers are having a really good time. Clever hecklers and a ready-witted candidate make a capital entertainment. We wonder how some English politicians would relish two hours' questioning on home, foreign and social subjects; yet that is no uncommon experience in Scottish town constituencies. The extreme section of the Socialists, especially those known as "Reds," are the only people who are disturbing the good order of the election. In several instances they have howled down candidates; but it is satisfactory to know that they have done their cause no service, and by this illustration of their views on "free speech" have alienated many of the moderates in the Labour party.

Electioneering is an uncomfortable business at the best. The candidate for a city constituency has not a moment to call his own, and the wonder is that he contrives to preserve his health and temper. The rural candidate has, perhaps, a better time, but even for him the difficulties and discomforts of (Continued at foot of next column.)

ROYAL SOCIETY OF ST.

GEORGE.

ANNUAL MEETING AT MANSION
HOUSE.

Sir John Baddley, the Lord Mayor, presided on November 2nd, at the Mansion House over the annual meeting of the Royal Society of St. George, the City of London branch of which he is the president.

In opening the proceedings, the Lord Mayor said the object of the society must appeal to every Englishman—the encouragement and strengthening of patriotism amongst all classes. The Society of St. George had done excellent work in disseminating patriotic literature throughout the Empire, and he was glad to know that the observance of St. George's Day was becoming more popular.

Mr. Arnold White proposed a resolution commending the objects of the society to the support of all loyal and patriotic Englishmen and Englishwomen throughout the world, and that the systematic and direct teaching of English history not only in the elementary and secondary schools, but in our Universities (by the founding of chairs of patriotism) should be regarded without delay. Referring to the present election, Mr. White said England was engaged in a task which was right out of the domain of party politics. The searchings of heart which were now taking place were a sign that in the reformation of the world it was England which would set an example of unselfishness and common sense, and of following the laws of sport. He saw true religion in the sports of this country, and on the Stock Exchange, where men make bargains with a nod, and in the commerce of the country; and it was for this reason that the word of an Englishman was trusted. Let them do all they could, extend—not diminish, or pride, or vanity, glory, or wealth, or anything that comes and goes, but the eternal lesson handed down to us by our English ancestors—to play the game. (Cheers.)

Major Bagg seconded the resolution, and said the society existed to encourage the spirit of patriotism among all classes of Englishmen. It set its face against none but those who tried to weaken that spirit, and knew no party.

travel throughout a scattered constituency are often, especially in winter, positively heartbreaking. One feels sorry for the ambitious politicians who solicit the votes of the electors in such places as Argyll, Inverness, the Outer Isles, and Orkney and Shetland. They spend their days, and often their nights in Ford cars and fishing smacks.

But the most terrible fate in the present election is surely that of a certain percentage of our acquaintance who is "covering" for his paper the elections in Argyll, Inverness, Naism, Elgin, and Banff "Cover" in this case, sounds rather like a malicious pleasantry.

Several Scottish Education authorities have granted leave of absence to teachers during the period of election to enable them to pursue their candidatures for Parliament. All these teachers are standing in the Labour interest. The Renfrewshire authority granted leave to Mr. John P. Hay, O.S.T., and on one of the members asking what O.S.T. stood for, was told that it was the Order of the Striped Tiger, which was awarded to Mr. Hay for services rendered to the Chinese Labour Corps during the war.

AUTO-SUGGESTION IN GOLF.

Abie Mitchell has had a thin time in the major events in the past two seasons. Auto-suggestion is suspected as having a hand in his returns, and its evils are generally rather more obvious in golf than in other sports. Certain of the younger professionals are generally victims at St. Andrews. Their attitude to the Old Course seems to be "every day and in every way it is getting harder and harder." That may not strictly represent their view. They would probably demand the substitution of "fukier and fukier" or "unfairer and unfairer," for "harder and harder." But how many difficulties are added to the round, what terrors are given to bunkers, what capricious kinks are grafted in to the ground by their own mental estimates is a matter of speculation. Men have missed short putts through "something on the line" that was not really there. Most golfers have heard of the old gentleman who could not putt because of the steamer out in the bay before they heard of Dr. Coope. Some men, the very few, it is feared, turn auto-suggestion to good account, like Willie Ritchie, for instance, in his recent putting. The many would seem to find it easier to persuade themselves that the Old Course, for example, is unfair. George Duncan, who once upon a time was credited with about the most enviable temperament in big golf, nevertheless did 68 there this year. That wonderful round contained one great duke. Conversely it must have included so many expertly hit strokes as to make the complaint from lesser lights against the course seem beside the point. Here is an opinion of more than ordinary relevance—"St. Andrews has got a character and features that you find nowhere else. What I like about it is this, that you may play a very good shot there and find yourself in a very bad place. That is the real game of golf. I don't want everything levelled and smoothed away, so that by no possible chance can your ball take an unlucky turn in a direction you don't like. People think and talk too much about fairness." That is not the view of an unimaginative golfer who has no disappointments in his record. Neither is it the statement of some one with no record worth speaking about. George Duncan wrote it last year.

DEBATE ON UNEMPLOYMENT.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF EMPIRE
TRADE.

LONDON, December 1st.

In the House of Commons resuming the debate on unemployment, Mr. Snowden declared that the Government proposals were painfully inadequate. They would give work to more than 200,000 out of 1,400,000 unemployed. The Labour Party would co-operate in any practicable proposals, but the Government must do more.

Sir Laming Worthington-Evans said Mr. Clynes scoffed at the proposal to develop Empire trade.

Mr. Clynes, interrupting, said he was the first Labour man to support the proposal to assist Empire trade in connection with the Empire Exhibition, but we must not neglect the large populations elsewhere in the world.

Sir L. Worthington-Evans accepted the correction and emphasised there was a very large population in the Empire the development of which might bring work to Britain very quickly. An example was that it was possible to spend usefully anything between thirty and fifty millions sterling in developing and improving the railways in India, which would bring Britain enormous direct employment. He thought it was well worth consideration at the proposed Empire Conference.

Mr. Asquith favoured the development of Empire trade provided the method adopted was economically, financially and socially sound. He declared that unemployment would remain a primary evil in Britain until economic stability was restored by settlement of the questions of reparations and indebtedness necessarily involving British abandonment of imaginary assets. (Opposition cheers.)

Mr. Bonar Law assured Mr. Asquith that he would not submit measures which were not economically, financially and socially sound. In regard to the suggestion that Britain should surrender all debts due to her, it seemed very curious as the result of the war that Britain should be the only nation to pay an indemnity. (Ministerial cheers.) Continuing the Premier said it seemed reasonable that Germany should make some reparation for destruction. Germany must pay in goods and it was not unfair to tax German exports. Empire trade was not a question of a fiscal character. He pledged himself to that. It was not a question of comparing the population of Europe with the population of the Empire. There was no question of the number of men who might be customers but of the number who were. He pointed out that the pre-war value of British trade with the Dominions with a white population of seventeen millions was over one third of the British trade with the whole of Europe, which had a population of 436 millions. Buying power had been transferred from Central Europe to Empire markets and that was where he must look for an improvement and it was not electioneering that made him say he was going to call an Empire Economic Conference. The Labour challenge to Government on the subject of unemployment was defeated in the House of Commons last night by 503 to 172.

The tone of all the speeches made during the debate, says *The Times*, was that of men who are absolutely at one in their sympathy with the unemployed and in their realization of the terrible evils which unemployment has brought upon the whole country. Spokesmen of all parties recognised that their blighted industries are one of England's war legacies—they are to England what her devastated areas are to France. The Prime Minister, however, expressed the belief that there was now a real chance of improvement in trade and newspapers are agreed that the debate has served a useful purpose. Meanwhile satisfaction is expressed that the Government, having secured approval for its great schemes for providing work for a considerable section of the unemployed are determined to give immediate effect to their proposals.

BRITISH BATTLESHIP
CONTRACTS.NEARLY THREE-QUARTERS OF
COST GO TO LABOUR.

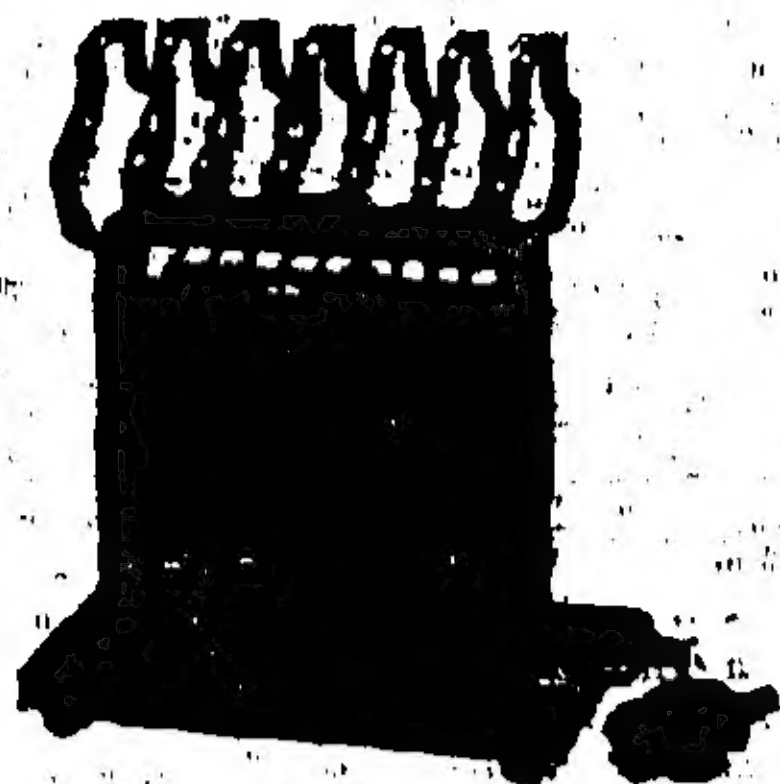
Although bidding for the new battleship contracts is expected to be very keen, reports from the North indicate that the firms most likely to be successful are those which suffered through the cancelling of the four battle cruisers a year ago, says the *Naval and Military Record*.

According to one forecast, John Brown and Co., of Clydebank, will secure the hull and machinery of the first ship, while the Tyne side firm of Swan, Hunter, and Wigham Richardson will build the second vessel, the machinery being supplied by the Parsons Steam Turbine Co. Events may, however, falsify this anticipation. The armament contracts will furnish work for several concerns, and Woolwich Arsenal, Elswick, and Sheffield all hope to benefit therefrom. Besides the hull, machinery, and armament, each ship will require innumerable items of equipment, the manufacture of which will give employment to a large number of people in many parts of the country.

As a general rule, 70 per cent. of the total cost of a modern warship is paid out in wages, and since it was estimated by the Admiralty last July that the two new battleships at prevailing prices would cost £26,500,000 apiece, or, including all accessories, reserves, stores, etc. about £30,000,000 apiece, the wage-earning community should benefit within the next three years to the tune of £11,000,000 or thereabouts. Eight million sterling is, of course, a big price to pay for a single ship of 35,000 tons, especially as the *Hood*, which is heavier by 6,000 tons, cost two million less—£26,025,000 to be exact which works out at £145 per ton.

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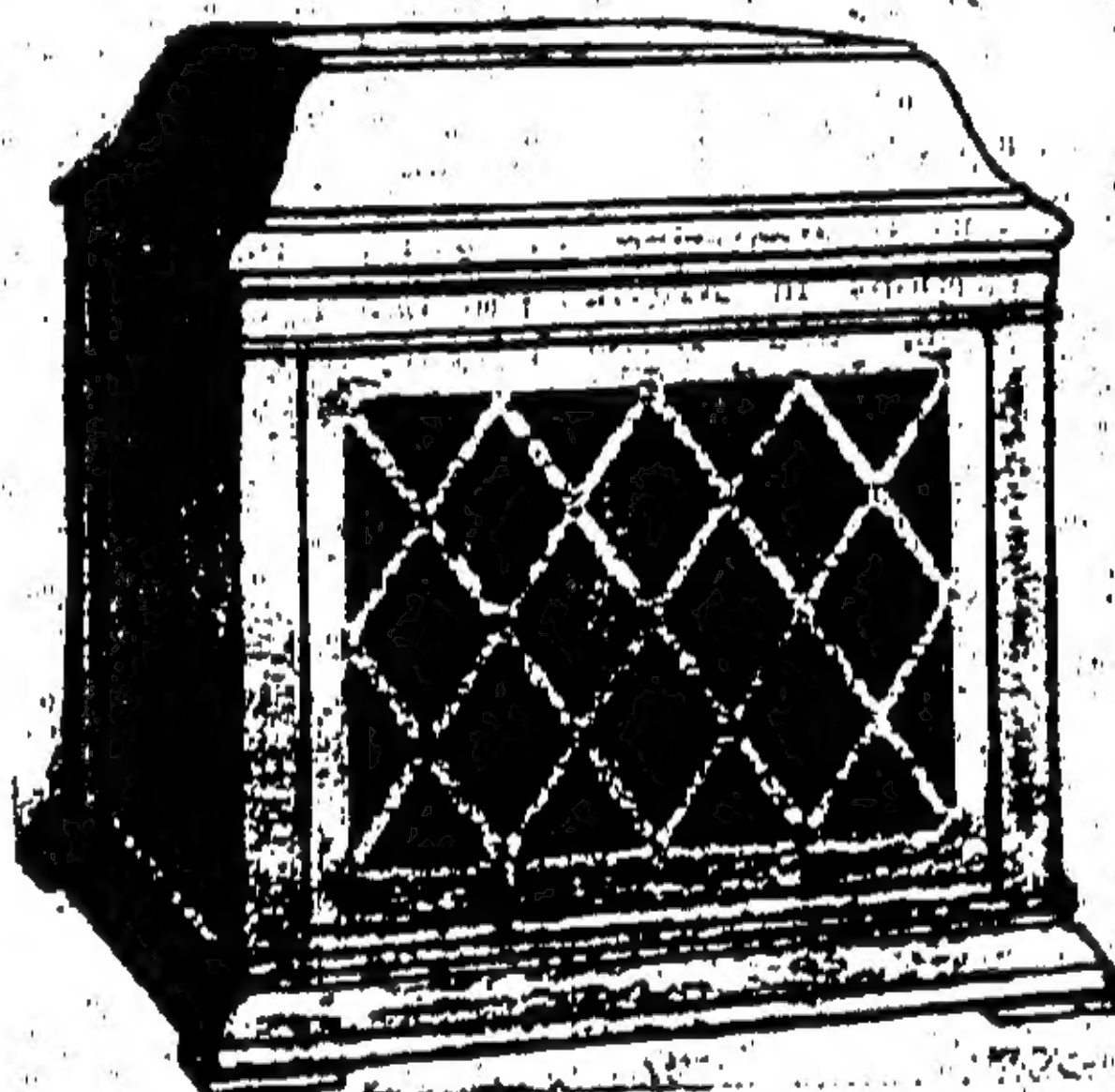


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to make him
well.

THEY NEVER LAUGH. MYSTERY OF MOST SOLEMN TRIBE IN THE WORLD.

Laughter, and the faculty of being merry and bright, are gifts of the gods to a world in which there is not too much sunshine at any time.

But this gift, according to the scientists who know all about these subjects, has been denied to the Veddas, the aboriginal inhabitants of Ceylon (says the *Pall Mall*). It is the only people in the world who never laugh, and in consequence they are thin and flabby folk, and a fat man among the Veddas should be an extraordinary sight for sad eyes. A traveller who has studied the early races in Ceylon gives some interesting particulars about this curious tribe.

For nearly 2,000 years, according to the best chronicles, these people, now almost extinct, have preserved the same characteristics, and no one so far as history reveals, has ever seen a smile on the face of one of them or heard a laugh while in their section of Ceylon.

The Veddas are divided into three distinct groups, the rock Veddas, who dwell almost entirely among the Binteane jungles in caves or cliffs in the rock, and who are skilful archers, bringing down bats, owls, crows, and kites, which constitute their principal food.

FEET TICKLING EXPERIMENT.

Why these people do not smile is a mystery. They alone of all the people on the earth know nothing of the sensation of laughter.

A scientist, who recently journeyed to Ceylon for the purpose of investigating this question, persuaded some of them to permit him to tickle them in the ribs and in the middle of their feet with straws, and never caught even the flicker of a smile on their faces, nor did he ever succeed in making one of them squirm and laugh aloud during the operation.

Another strange thing about the Veddas, and one which may possibly be connected with their lack of humour, is the fact that every one of them is a George Washington, unable to tell a lie or to conceive of anyone else telling a lie. They cannot even believe that anyone would take the property of anyone else and association with civilisation has failed to convince them that it is possible.

With all this—or, rather, without all this—the Veddas are a peaceable, gentle, quiet people. They take wives without any marriage ceremony, and are faithful and constant to them, supporting them to death.

GAMBLING REVELATIONS. COLOSSAL DEBTS OF SIR EDWIN JOHN.

The *Evening News* says further revelations can now be made concerning the gambling debts of Sir Edwin John, the Anglo-Indian cotton merchant, who dissipated a fortune of more than £200,000 in three nights' gambling at the Travellers' Club, Paris.

Undaunted by these huge losses Sir Edwin immediately visited Deauville, where he spent several weeks at the Casino. During August he stayed at the most expensive hotel and entertained lavishly. Time after time he risked 20,000 francs on a throw and lost on one occasion 10 times consecutively. During the few weeks at Deauville he borrowed more than 1,500,000 francs from the banking department of the Casino. He paid in post-dated cheques, but though several of the accounts were met cheques for 950,000 francs were dishonoured. The managing director of the Deauville Casino is therefore about to institute legal proceedings in England against him.

It is claimed by the creditor that the money being lent was probably used in part for hotel bills and therefore is on a different level from purely gambling debts incurred at the Travellers' Club by Sir Edwin. Sir Edwin replied that the banking department of the Casino knew the money would in effect be expended on gambling.

WHEN IS A MAN DRUNK?

PROBLEM DISCUSSED AT OLD BAILEY.

The problem "when is a man drunk" has been lifted from the lowly level of the Police Court into the serene heights of the Old Bailey. The Recorder has tried a motor bus driver charged with injuring a woman when the police alleged that the accident was due to the driver's drunkenness.

The Recorder, Sir Ernest Wild, who has not long been appointed, and frequently evinces a desire to acquire knowledge, asked the police doctor what tests were employed.

The doctor said he used the light test which consists in flashing a light into the man's eyes and observing the speed at which the pupils contract.

Sir E. Wild asked: "Do you use the chalk line test?"

The doctor replied in the negative, and Sir E. Wild remarked "That's the un-fair test in the world." It is enough to make a man drunk.

The doctor interposed, remarking that he doubted if counsel could walk a chalk line.

Counsel replied: "Perhaps I couldn't last night, but I could to-day."

The jury acquitted the driver.

WOMEN SOLICITORS IN ENGLAND.

Following closely on the recent admission of women members to the English Bar, women Solicitors may be expected soon to appear. The results of the Law Society's examination made known recently show that four women students passed the final examination qualifying to be enrolled as Solicitors.



"In Propaganda it is Truth
that counts"—TIMES

OLD Highland Malt Whiskies are scarce and must be scarce for some years yet. It is old Highland Malt Whiskies that give to HAIG & HAIG FIVE STARS SCOT'S WHISKY the character which makes it a palatable and safe stimulant for discriminating users of alcohol.

"A little and good" is the motto or slogan of our house. Intemperate use even of Haig & Haig Whisky is reprehensible.

Too much Whisky, too much food, too much exercise, too much clothing, are all bad. To adapt a scriptural aphorism, "IT IS MODERATION THAT EXALTETH A NATION."

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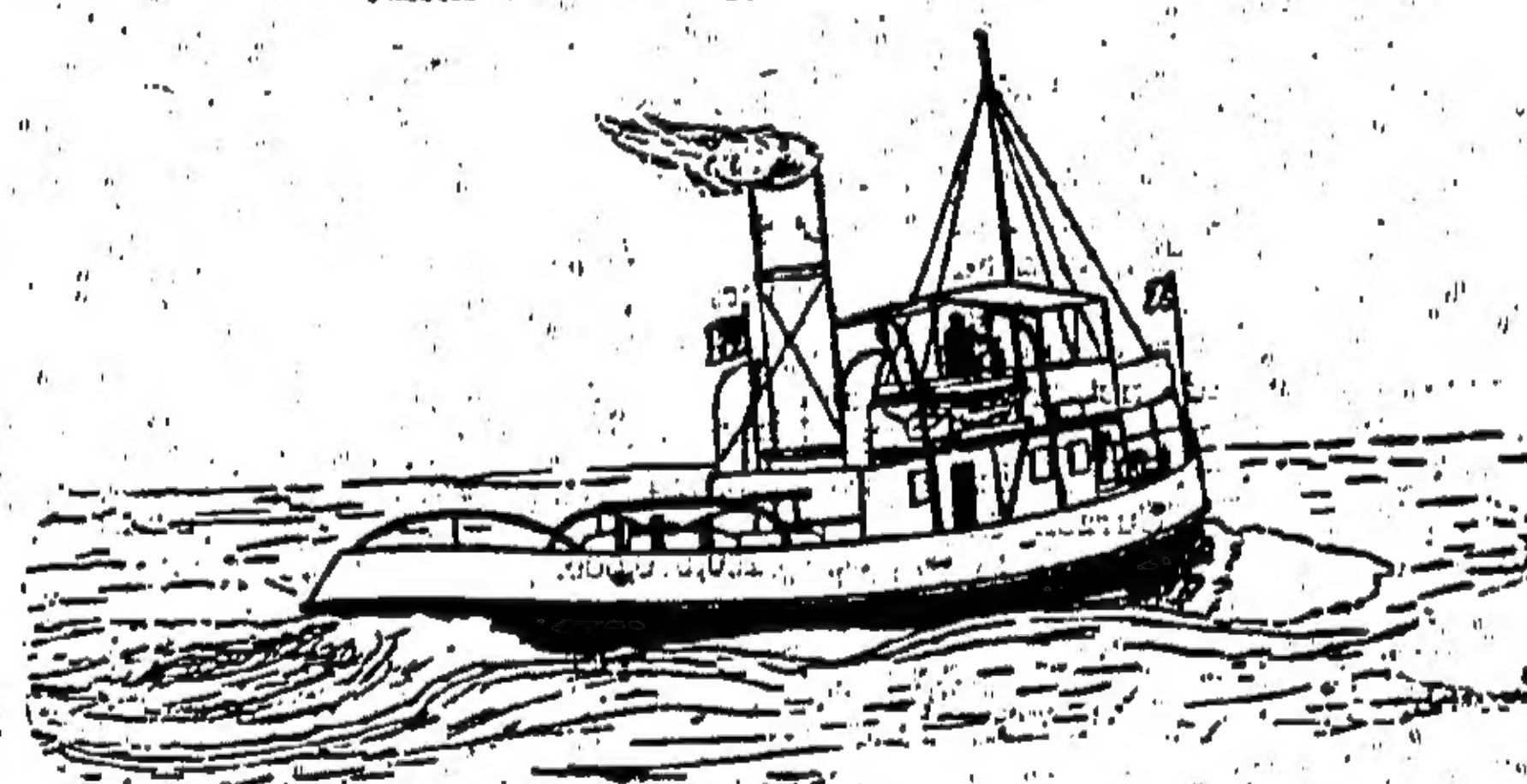
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Boiler Makers, Founders and Constructional Engineers and Repairers.

MUNICIPAL ELECTRICITY DEPARTMENT, SHANGHAI.

The Electricity Department offers the following electrical generating plant for sale by Public Tender.

Two—2,000 K.W. WILLIAMS & ROBINSON, England, standard horizontal three stage single flow steam turbines, 180-200 lbs. steam pressure, 1,500 revolutions per minute.

Two—2,000 K.W. (2,500 K.V.A.) SIMPLEX BROS. & CO., England, A.C. generators 6,000/5,500 volts, three phase, 50 cycle, 1,500 revolutions per minute.

Two—2,900 square feet WILLIAMS & ROBINSON surface condensers, complete with motor driven centrifugal circulating pumps, air pump, etc., each for use with the turbines above described.

Two—30 H.P. ELECTRIC CONSTRUCTION CO., England, 440 volt, three phase, 50 cycle induction motors.

Two—13 H.P. 440 volt, three phase, 50 cycle motors.

One—30 K.W. direct current generator, ELECTRIC CONSTRUCTION CO., 220 volt, 720 R.P.M. 4-pole shunt wound generator direct coupled to a British Westinghouse 120 H.P. squirrel cage induction motor three phase 440 volts, 50 cycle, 720 R.P.M.

The above plant is in First Class running order at the Riverside Power Station, and is no longer required owing to the installation of larger turbine machines.

The plant may be viewed at the Riverside Power Station upon written application to the Head Office.

Tenders are invited for the purchase of the complete plant as it stands, and should be submitted to the Engineer-in-Chief and Manager, 17, Foochow Road, Shanghai and reach him not later than noon on Thursday, 4th January, 1923.

The Department does not bind itself to accept the highest or any tender.

[1922]

WORLD THEATRE

WEDNESDAY to FRIDAY,
3 DAYS ONLY.

5.15 and 9.15 p.m.

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"FIREBRAND TREVISON"

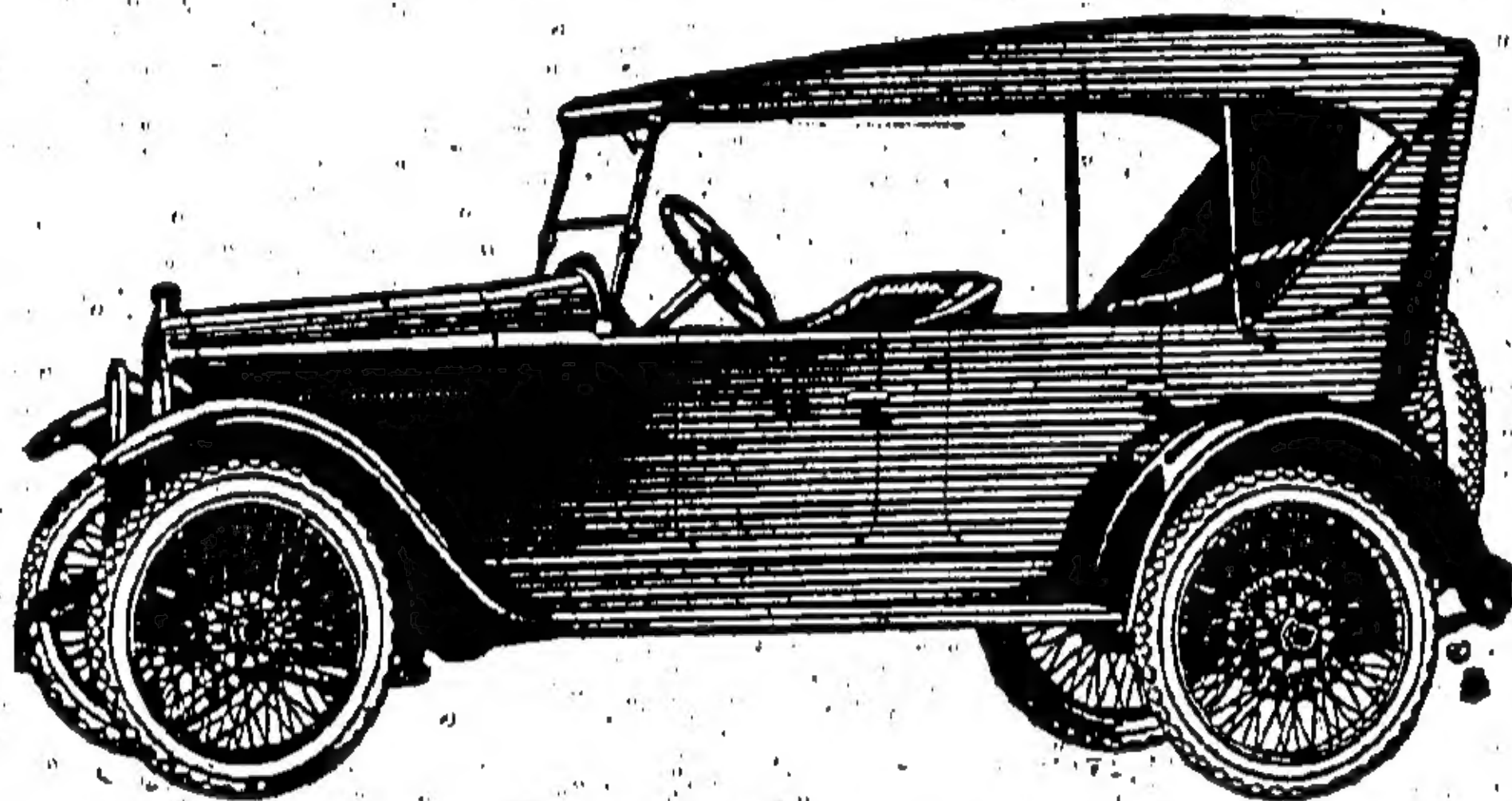
A Western Romance of Lightning Speed and
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2.30 & 7.15 p.m.

RUTH CLIFFORD & JACK SHERRILL in "THE INVISIBLE RAY."
Episodes, 3 & 4.

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SIGNALLING AT SEA.

THE NAVY AND MERCANTILE
MARINE.

Until brought forcibly to the attention of the authorities by the late Lord Beresford, communication by visual signal between ships of the Royal Navy and the Mercantile Marine was very rare, simply because the latter had neither the skill nor apparatus necessary for the purpose. It is, says the *London Morning Post*, indeed strange that although, at least for war purposes, the marine of the British Empire is one of the most elementary principle of co-operation—ability for inter-communication—had been neglected until about thirty years ago. And it is only within the last twenty years that the matter has been taken up officially and encouragement given to officers of the Mercantile Marine to render themselves proficient in signalling. The credit of this advance is due primarily to Lord Beresford and the beneficial results which accrued therefrom, during the war form a tribute to his power of imagination, a power which, exercised in many ways to their benefit, the country and Navy should hold in grateful memory.

The general adoption of wireless and the presence in merchant vessels of any size of at least one skilled wireless operator has, to a certain extent, diminished the importance of visual signalling; but only to a limited degree. In the days before visual signalling between His Majesty's ships and ships of the Mercantile Marine was practised regularly it was frequently necessary, in order to obtain an item of information, to send over a boat for the purpose. When a man-of-war and a merchant vessel were passing at sea the former might make a simple flag signal asking a question. The odds as to its being answered before the ships were out of sight of each other were, however, great.

SIGNALLING AND CONVOY.

This state of affairs was due to lack of practice and encouragement. The officer of the watch on board the merchant vessel—a tramp, for example—had first to make out what the flags flying on the man-of-war were. This is no easy matter with the wind in certain directions relative to the positions of the ships. Next he had to lay his hands on the signal book in order to ascertain the meaning of the particular combination of flags, after which he had to pick out a suitable reply from the book, go to the locker in which the flags were kept, pull out the correct ones, and finally hoist them. All this because semaphore and Morse signalling were closed books to him. It is hardly surprising that replies to signalled questions from men-of-war were very rare indeed.

To officers of the Mercantile Marine must be given the main credit for the changed conditions of affairs which now exist. The Navy with its fine staff of exceedingly efficient signallers, required no special effort. But, when the importance of the subject was brought to their notice, the officers of the Mercantile Marine set out to learn signalling, often paying for the necessary apparatus out of their own pockets. Subsequently a knowledge of signalling has formed a definite part of the Board of Trade examinations, while even the smallest steamship companies now provide their vessels with semaphore flags and Morse lamps.

The matter naturally received a very great impetus as a result of the war. The system of convoys, which did so much to defeat the submarines, was rendered feasible largely on account of the general proficiency in signalling which had by that time been attained by the Merchant Service. It is hardly too much to say that the efficient conduct of a convoy depends as much on proficiency in inter-communication between the vessels comprising it as it does on anything else. Many master mariners of great repute held that the system of convoys would not be possible in practice. They proved to be wrong. Seamanship and signalling were the determining factors.

CEMENTING COMRADESHIP.

With the advent of peace it is satisfactory to note that there is no apparent flagging of interest in the matter. The Admiralty have issued a summary of the Quarterly Return of Signalling between His Majesty's Ships and Merchant Vessels for the quarter ended June 30th, in which they state that "the reports show a high percentage of successful results, and signalling on the whole has been very good."

It is particularly appropriate that the ship to carry out the greatest number of successful exercises in the period should have been the *Benbow*, with the Prince of Wales on board, and, apart from the exercises, it is easy to imagine the satisfaction of passing British vessels which were, owing to proficiency in signalling, able to send a message of humble duty. Two hundred and twenty-nine exercises were carried out with ships of the leading companies which are specified in the report, there being only two failures; while thirty-six vessels are named as being specially good. These names include vessels from companies large and small, showing that proficiency in signalling is not the province of the great liners alone. Altogether, 636 exercises were carried out during the quarter.

The ubiquity of the Navy and the Mercantile Marine is manifested in the report by the localities in which the exercises were held in which respect a note in the report speaks for itself: "His Majesty's ship *Hawkins* reports that frequent signals were passed with vessels belonging to Butterfield and Swire, and Jardine and Matheson at Wei-hai-wei with no trouble whatever."

There is something in a report of this nature which stimulates the imagination. It is not merely a question of signal exercises. It is a process going on day by day, which must inevitably serve to cement the comradeship of the two Services upon which the British Empire depends most of all for its continued security and welfare. For those two great services to pass each other by at sea without being able to converse with one another, as they did in the past was lamentable. Comradeship is impossible without conversation, and conversation at sea is rendered possible by efficient signalling. Visual signalling is, moreover, intimate, while wireless savours of the telephone.



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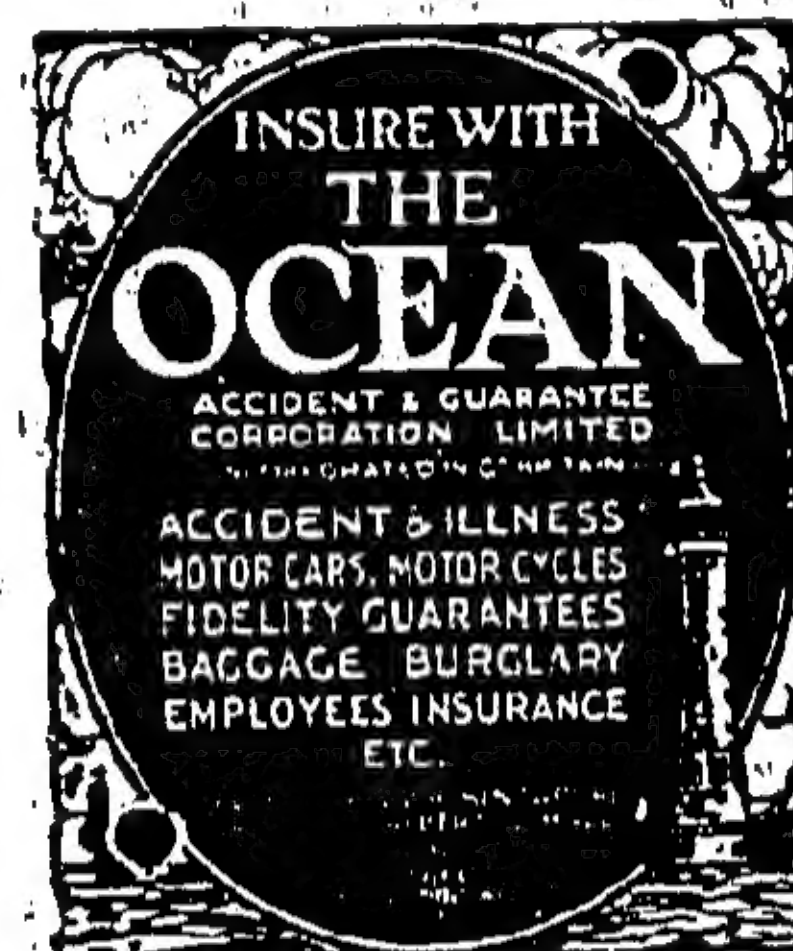
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WEATHER REPORT.

Dec. 20th, at 11.55.—Pressure has increased slightly from Shanghai to Hakodate and at Guam and Lahu. It has increased moderately from Vladivostok to Nagasaki. The anticyclone remains stationary over China.

Fresh to strong monsoon may be expected along the S.E. coast of China and over the N. China Sea.

Hongkong rainfall for the 24 hours ending at 10 a.m. 2 1/2 in. Total since January 1st, 69.4 inches, against an average of 82.70 inches.

The forecast for the 24 hours ending at noon to-day is as follows:—

| District | Forecast |
|--|------------------------------|
| Hongkong to Gap Rock ... | N.E. winds, fresh; overcast. |
| Formosa Channel ... | N.E. winds, strong. |
| South coast of China between Hongkong and Lamock ... | The same as No. 1. |
| South coast of China between Hongkong and Hainan ... | The same as No. 1. |

HONGKONG METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER.

Hongkong Observatory, December 20th.

| | Previous Day at 3 p.m. | at 6 a.m. | at 3 p.m. |
|--------------------|------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Barometer ... | 30.14 | 30.13 | 30.10 |
| Temperature ... | 69 | 69 | 64 |
| Humidity ... | 71 | 68 | 63 |
| Wind Direction ... | N | N.E. | N |
| Force ... | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Weather ... | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Rain ... | 0.45 | 0.00 | 0.00 |

Highest open-air Temperature on 19th ... 63.
Lowest open-air Temperature on 20th ... 58.

depends most of all for its continued security and welfare. For those two great services to pass each other by at sea without being able to converse with one another, as they did in the past was lamentable. Comradeship is impossible without conversation, and conversation at sea is rendered possible by efficient signalling. Visual signalling is, moreover, intimate, while wireless savours of the telephone.

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| | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|
| MANILA via SWATOW ... | "LOONGSANG" ... | Thursday, 31st Dec., 3 p.m. |
| POKOW via SWATOW ... | "YUSANG" ... | Friday, 22nd Dec., 10 a.m. |
| SHANGHAI via HOIHOW ... | "MINGSANG" ... | Friday, 22nd Dec., 10 a.m. |
| BANGKOK via HOIHOW ... | "CHUNGSANG" ... | Saturday, 23rd Dec., 10 a.m. |
| TSINGTAU via SWATOW ... | "TINGSANG" ... | Sunday, 24th Dec., 10 a.m. |
| SHANGHAI via SWATOW ... | "LOKSANG" ... | Tuesday, 25th Dec., 10 a.m. |
| BANGKOK via SWATOW ... | "CHAKSANG" ... | Tuesday, 25th Dec., 10 a.m. |
| SANDAKAN via SWATOW ... | "HINSANG" ... | Saturday, 30th Dec., Noon. |
| BANGKOK via SWATOW ... | "DRUGSANG" ... | Monday, 31st Jan., 10 a.m. |
| STRAITS & CALCUTTA ... | "NAMSANG" ... | Wednesday, 3rd Jan., 3 p.m. |
| KOBE ... | "FOOKSANG" ... | Friday, 5th Jan., Noon. |
| STRAITS & CALCUTTA ... | "BOSANG" ... | Friday, 18th Jan., 3 p.m. |
| STRAITS & CALCUTTA ... | "FOOKSANG" ... | Tuesday, 30th Jan., 3 p.m. |

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| "GLENSANDA" | 1st Jan. | "GLENSHIRE" | 7th Jan. | London, Hull, Antwerp, Rotterdam & Hamburg |
| "GLADNORSHIRE" | 13th Jan. | "GLADNORSHIRE" | 17th Jan. | London, Hull, Antwerp & Hamburg |
| "GLENSHANE" | 20th Jan. | | | |

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| Kashima Hotel | Matsuyama — | Nara Hotel | Daikoku Hotel |
| Kanazawa — | Park Hotel | Nikko — | Tokyo — |
| Miyajima — | Miyajima Hotel | Kanaya Hotel | Imperial Hotel |
| Miyajima Hotel | Miyajima Hotel | Nikko Hotel | Tokyo Station Hotel |
| Miyajima Hotel | Miyajima Hotel | Osaka — | Tokyo Station Hotel |
| Osaka — | Osaka Hotel | Osaka Hotel | Yokohama — |
| Osaka Hotel | Osaka Hotel | Osaka Hotel | Grand Hotel |

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|---------------------|--------------|------------------|--|
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| Keijo Station Hotel | Dairen — | | |
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